

September 21, 2004

September Twenty-first

20-----04

The second regular Meeting of City Council was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: Ruby B. Archie, P. A. "Pete" Castiglione, Jr., E. Stokes Daniels, Jr., Mayor John C. Hamlin, T. David Luther, Albert K. "Buddy" Rawley, Jr., Sherman M. Saunders, H. Phillip Smith, and Vice-Mayor R. Wayne Williams, Jr. (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Jerry L. Gwaltney, Deputy City Manager M. Lyle Lacy, III, Assistant City Manager for Utilities Joseph C. King, Assistant City Manager for Government Affairs Todd M. Yeatts, Finance Director Aubrey D. Dodson, Budget Director Cynthia L. Thomasson, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., and City Clerk Annette Y. Crane, CMC.

Other Staff members present were Transportation Services Director Marc Adelman, Deputy Police Chief Tom Brown, Economic Development Director Ron Bunch, Public Works Administrative Division Director Barry Doeber, Public Works Director Rick Drazenovich, Community Development Director Jerry Fischer, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director John Gilstrap. and Fire Chief B. G. Lewis. Mayor Hamlin presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Phillip Smith offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Council Member Buddy Rawley submitted the following letter:

September 21, 2004
The Honorable John C. Hamlin
Mayor, City of Danville

Dear Mayor Hamlin:

I, Albert K. Rawley, Jr. do hereby tender my resignation as a member of Danville City Council effective October 8, 2004. I have accepted the position of Customer Service Manager for MSC, Inc. headquartered in Fayetteville, North Carolina. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the current city council for giving me the opportunity to serve the citizens of Danville. It has been the most challenging and rewarding two years of my life.

September 21, 2004

Although this has been a very difficult decision, I feel it is the right one for me and my family. Fayetteville will be my new address but Danville will always be my home.

Sincerely,

s/Albert K. Rawley, Jr.

Mayor Hamlin said the Council would ratify Council Member Rawley's resignation during the October 7, 2004 Council Meeting.

(Clerk's Note: Mr. Rawley's letter is attached to and made a part of these Minutes).

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Daniels and second by Council Member Archie, Minutes of the September 7, 2004 Council Meeting were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

AUTHORIZE GUARANTY AGREEMENT-BLUE RIDGE POWER AGENCY

Upon Motion by Vice-Mayor Williams and second by Council Member Daniels, Ordinance No. 2004-09.03 presented by its First Reading on September 7, 2004 authorizing the execution and delivery by the City of Danville, Virginia, of a Guaranty Agreement in a maximum amount of \$946,000, for the account of Blue Ridge Power Agency, Inc. was introduced for final adoption.

Council Member Luther recalled that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) now requires all electric companies to join "Regional Transmission Organizations" (RTOs) that will oversee and manage large, multi-state electric transmission grids. The State of Virginia's electrical restructuring law requires membership in an RTO by January 1, 2005. Mr. Luther said the public should be made aware that RTOs will allow customers to pay a single cost for power transmission, rather than accumulated fees as power moves across borders. The fees paid to RTOs are recovered in charges passed on to customers. Mr. Luther inquired if there were an estimate on what the City is now paying and if the \$946,000 is an annual amount or the maximum amount that would ever be paid.

Assistant City Manager for Utilities Joe King responded the fees are presently not being paid because it is only as of October 1, 2004 that the Blue Ridge Power Agency would enter into the RTO with PJM Interconnection. PJM controls electric power transmission in several states, including Virginia. Mr. King said transmission costs are now being paid to the City's electrical supplier, but Mr. King said he could not presently estimate what those figures were. Mr. King also said it was anticipated that the \$946,000 would be the maximum amount to be paid.

The Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

September 21, 2004

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET ADOPTION-FY 04-05 - DEMONSTRATION GRANT-MASS TRANSIT

Upon Motion by Council Member Castiglione and second by Council Member Archie, Ordinance No. 2004-09.04 presented by its First Reading on September 7, 2004 amending the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by increasing revenues to provide for a Demonstration Grant from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation in the amount of \$63,650, passenger fares in the amount of \$9,000 and local matching funds in the amount of \$3,350, for a total appropriation in the amount of \$76,000, for experimental bus service to the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Ingram Heights, and Dan Heights and appropriating the same was introduced for final adoption.

Council Member Castiglione inquired as to how the passenger fares were determined for bus service.

Transportation Services Director Marc Adelman responded that fares were set based on anticipated levels of passenger service for the Institute as well as forecasting ridership for Ingram Heights and Dan Heights. Mr. Adelman said that if passenger revenues did not meet the \$9,000 estimate, then bus service would be terminated to the Institute, Dan Heights and Ingram Heights.

Council Member Daniels asked how the \$63,650 would be spent. Mr. Adelman responded that part of the funds would be used to hire an additional part-time driver to assist with the additional routes.

The Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET ADOPTION-FY 2004-05-TRAFFIC SIGNAL-PIEDMONT DRIVE

Upon Motion by Council Member Rawley and second by Council Member Daniels, Ordinance No. 2004-09.05 presented by its First Reading on September 7, 2004 amending the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to provide for a contribution in the amount of \$75,000 and a transfer of \$75,000 from General Street Improvements for installing a traffic signal on Piedmont Drive at a new entrance to a

September 21, 2004

commercial development across from Park Avenue to a total appropriation in the amount of \$150,000 was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Rawley, Saunders,
Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2004-2005-HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT

Upon Motion by Council Member Archie and second by Council Member Luther, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-09.06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE TO ANTICIPATE THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES HIGHWAY SAFETY PROJECT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,000 AND APPROPRIATING SAME

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2004-2005-POLICE EQUIPMENT

Upon Motion by Council Member Luther and second by Council Member Daniels, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-09.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE TO ANTICIPATE THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES SPECIAL GRANT AWARD PROGRAM FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,717 AND LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,572 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,289 TO BE USED TOWARD THE PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER MATERIAL DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE BASIC LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNCTION

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

Vice-Mayor Williams said he understood that these funds would be used to purchase a radar trailer that could be positioned at various locations within the City to provide visual

September 21, 2004

notification to drivers of their speed as they pass by. Dr. Williams requested that the new equipment purchased be able to store the speed to determine if there are problems with continual speeding in residential neighborhoods. Deputy Police Chief Tom Brown said the equipment would have these capabilities.

BUDGET AMENDMENT- FY 04-05-PROTECTIVE GEAR-FIRE DEPARTMENT

Upon Motion by Council Member Luther and second by Council Member Smith, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-09.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$174,582 FROM THE OFFICE OF DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS AND THE UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION AND LOCAL SHARE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,398 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$193,980 TO PURCHASE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR FOR EACH UNIFORMED PERSONNEL OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

In response to Council Member Daniels, City Manager Gwaltney said these funds would allow the Fire Department to purchase new state-of-the-art personal protective equipment for each of the 122 uniformed personnel in the Fire Department.

Fire Chief Lewis said the new equipment would allow firefighters to have in readiness, a second set in the event of an emergency associated with hazardous materials.

In response to Council Member Archie, Chief Lewis said the new equipment would be much lighter and more comfortable.

Council Member Saunders said he felt the City's firefighters deserved the very best in equipment because of the danger associated with the jobs. He expressed sincere appreciation for the city's public safety personnel.

Mr. Gwaltney said he felt the City would see more grant funds coming in, particularly in the areas of firefighting and police.

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2004-2005-TORNADO DAMAGE - GWHS

Upon Motion by Council Member Archie and second by Council Member Castiglione, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-09.09

September 21, 2004

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY AUTHORIZING INCREASES IN CERTAIN REVENUES AND APPROPRIATING SAME, RELATING TO TORNADO DAMAGES TO THE GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS COURTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$105,091

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Gwaltney called attention to the Annual Report of the Employees' Retirement System that had been placed at the desk of each Council Member.

Mr. Gwaltney said the Ordinance relating to abandoned vehicles would be placed on a future agenda. Council Member Smith had inquired about the item at a previous Council meeting. Mr. Gwaltney said City Attorney Whitfield and Police Chief Broadfoot were currently formulating the Ordinance for presentation to Council.

There were no communications from the Deputy City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Archie offered good wishes to Council Member Rawley. She said he would be missed greatly and that he had played an integral part in Council's team effort.

Mrs. Archie expressed appreciation for the completion of the paving on Riverside Drive. She praised the work crews that worked so hard to clean up Riverside Drive following the recent tornado.

Mrs. Archie asked Deputy City Manager Lacy to contact Community Development Director Jerry Fischer to gather information about the old Grasty Library located at 312 Holbrook Street. She said the facility was located in the bottom of an apartment. Mrs. Archie said the top of the building had caved in and she would like to see at least the first two floors saved. The building is located in a historic district and is a historic building for African Americans. She said when she came to Danville, the Grasty Library was the only library in the city for African Americans. Mr. Lacy agreed to do so.

Council Member Castiglione said Mr. Rawley had been a good friend to the Danville community and especially the last two years on City Council. He said Mr. Rawley would be greatly missed.

September 21, 2004

Mr. Castiglione advised that Gibson Middle School Principal Larry Toomer asked him to extend an invitation to Council Members to attend a Teacher/Staff Appreciation Day would be held on Wednesday, September 22 at the school.

Mr. Castiglione asked the City Manager to investigate the possibility of erecting unique speed limit signs in the City on an experimental basis. Mr. Castiglione said that when speed limit signs are the same and are never changed, citizens tend not to see the signs. He suggested that citizens would notice signs that say, for example, 43 miles per hour or 47 miles per hour.

Council Member Daniels asked about the status of the Worsham Street Bridge. City Manager Gwaltney said the project went out to bid today. The pre-bid conference will be held on October 5. The consultants had recommended that something be done before the winter comes, specifically the area of the bridge over Route 58.

Mr. Daniels inquired of Deputy Police Chief Tom Brown if something could be done about the little motorized bicycles or scooters that are ridden around the City. Mr. Daniels said he had received several comments about the vehicles.

Mr. Brown said that State law dictates that the operators of such vehicles be at least 16 years of age and have proper ID when operating the motorized vehicle. Mr. Brown said that the State Law does allow local jurisdictions to make further restrictions by Ordinance if they desired to do so.

In response to Mayor Hamlin, Mr. Brown said if the City did not wish to see these vehicles on the Route 29 Expressway, Piney Forest Road, or Riverside Drive where there are high traffic volumes, the City could impose those restrictions.

City Manager Gwaltney agreed to investigate the matter with the City Attorney and the Police Chief.

Mr. Daniels extended his best wishes to Council Member Rawley.

Mayor Hamlin announced that anyone in the community who wished to be considered for Mr. Rawley's council seat should contact a member of City Council or the City Clerk.

Mayor Hamlin called attention to a calendar that was produced by a group of ladies who call themselves "Heartstrings." Proceeds from sales of the calendar will go toward revitalization efforts of the North Theatre. Mayor Hamlin said the first 500 printed have already been sold and a second printing is now available for purchase.

Council Members Luther and Saunders expressed good wishes for Council Member Rawley.

Council Member Rawley said he has been overwhelmed by the kindness of the people in this community. He thanked everyone for their cards and phone calls.

September 21, 2004

Council Member Smith requested that a meeting between Council and city administration be scheduled before Thanksgiving to discuss the FY 2005-2006 budget. Mr. Gwaltney said plans are underway for that meeting presently.

Mr. Gwaltney advised the administration had prepared a financial spreadsheet relating to the Worsham Street Bridge and would get that information out to Council members in a few days.

Mr. Smith expressed appreciation to the members of the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees for their excellent oversight of the retirement funds. He thanked employee-elected members Carolyn Evans, Alan Johnson, and David Patterson and Council-appointed members Ed Baucom, Jim Motley, and Linwood Wright.

Vice-Mayor Williams announced there would be a neighborhood watch meeting on October 4, 2004, 6:00 p.m., at Calvary Baptist Church.

Dr. Williams thanked members of Council for meeting with area physicians in order to hear their concerns.

Dr. Williams expressed his very best wishes to Council Member Rawley and thanked him for his service to the citizens of Danville.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

MAYOR

CLERK